



The history and meaning of the Aruban florin



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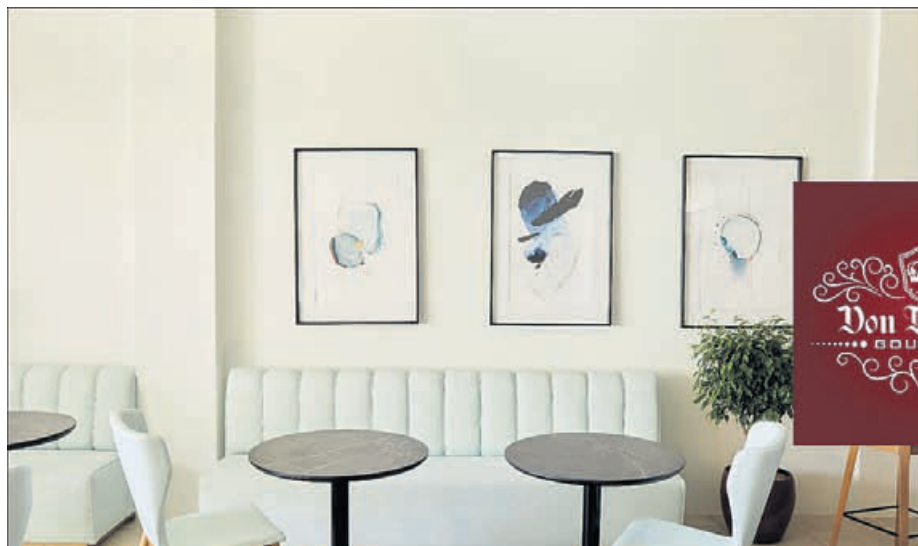
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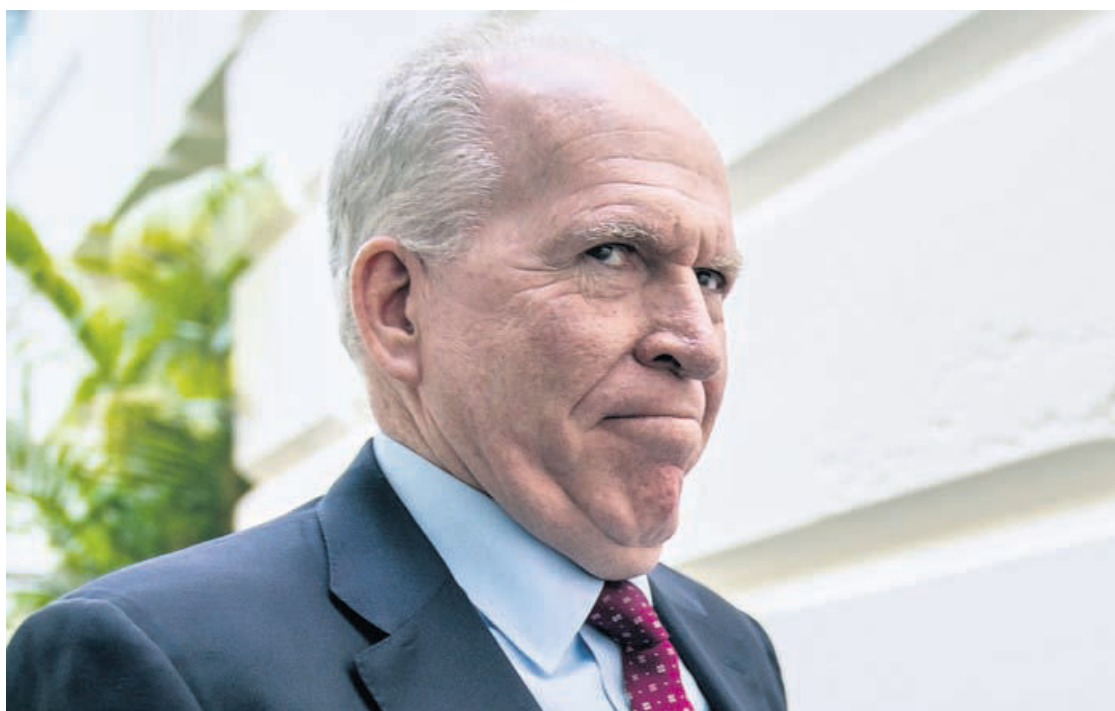
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Ex-CIA director John Brennan wants 'favored' Trump judge kept away from Justice Department inquiry

By **ERIC TUCKER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawyers for former CIA Director John Brennan want the Justice Department to be prevented from steering an investigation of him and other former government officials to a "favored" judge in Florida who dismissed the classified documents case against President Donald Trump.

The request Monday is addressed to U.S. District Judge Cecilia Altonaga, the chief judge in the Southern District of Florida, where federal prosecutors have launched a criminal investigation related to the U.S. government assessment of Russian interference in the 2016 presi-



Former CIA Director John Brennan arrives for a meeting at the Capitol in Washington, May 21, 2019.

Associated Press

believe was committed, but the subpoenas issued last month to Brennan and other former law enforcement and intelligence officials sought documents related to the preparation of the Obama administration's intelligence community assessment, made public in January 2017, that detailed how Russia waged a covert influence campaign to help Trump defeat Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

Trump was investigated, but not charged, during his first term over whether his campaign conspired with Russia to tip the outcome of the election. He has long sought retribution over the Russia investigation and the officials who played a key part in it.

His Justice Department in September secured a false statement and obstruction indictment against James Comey, the FBI director at the time the Russia probe was launched, though the case against him was dismissed and its future is in doubt thanks to a judge's ruling that blocked prosecutors from accessing materials they considered to be key evidence.

Brennan's lawyers say the Trump administration Justice Department tried to "forum-shop" the investigation into him to multiple jurisdictions, including Pennsylvania, before settling in Florida.

But they say prosecutors have been unable to answer basic questions about why Florida is a proper venue for the investigation given that the intelligence community assessment at issue was produced by officials in the Washington, D.C., area.

The grand jury investigation is currently based in the Miami division of the Southern District of Florida, but Brennan's lawyers say they're concerned that the Trump administration may be poised to transfer the case to the smaller Fort Pierce division, where Cannon is the only judge. □

dential election. Brennan and other officials have received subpoenas and Brennan's lawyer say he's been advised by prosecutors that he's a target of the investigation.

Brennan's lawyers say the Justice Department is engaged in "judge-shopping" and trying to arrange for the case to be handled by U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon, who issued favorable rulings to Trump during the classified documents case and dismissed it last year. The letter asks Altonaga to exercise her "supervisory authority" as chief judge to ensure that the Justice Department is unable to steer the current election interference investigation into her courtroom.

"In short, we are seeking assurance that any litigation arising out of his grand jury proceeding will be heard by a judge who is selected by the court's neutral and impartial processes, not by the prosecution's self-interested maneuvering contrary to the interests of justice," wrote Brennan's attorneys, Kenneth Weinstein and Natasha Harnwell-Davis. The New York Times earlier reported on the letter.

It remains unclear what crime prosecutors in Florida

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Trump's appointment of envoy to Greenland sparks new tension with Denmark



Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry speaks to reporters at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, La., Sept. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

By **GEIR MOULSON**
Associated Press

The leaders of Denmark and Greenland insisted Monday that the United States won't take over Greenland and demanded respect for their territorial integrity after President Donald Trump announced the appointment of a special envoy to the semi-autonomous territory.

Trump's announcement on Sunday that Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry would be the envoy prompted a new flare-up of tensions over Washington's interest in the vast territory of Denmark, a NATO ally. Denmark's foreign minister told Danish broadcasters that he would summon the U.S. ambassador to his ministry. "We have said it before.

Now, we say it again. National borders and the sovereignty of states are rooted in international law," Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and her Greenlandic counterpart, Jens-Frederik Nielsen, said in a joint statement. "They are fundamental principles. You cannot annex another country. Not even with an argument about interna-

tional security."

"Greenland belongs to the Greenlanders and the U.S. shall not take over Greenland," they added in the statement emailed by Frederiksen's office. "We expect respect for our joint territorial integrity."

Trump called repeatedly during his presidential transition and the early months of his second term for U.S. jurisdiction over Greenland, and has not ruled out military force to take control of the mineral-rich, strategically located Arctic island. In March, Vice President JD Vance visited a remote U.S. military base in Greenland and accused Denmark of under-investing there.

The issue gradually drifted out of the headlines, but in August, Danish officials summoned the top U.S. diplomat in Copenhagen following a report that at least three people with connections to Trump had carried out covert influence operations in Greenland.

On Sunday, Trump announced Landry's appointment, saying on social media that "Jeff understands how essential Greenland is to our National Security,

and will strongly advance our Country's Interests for the Safety, Security, and Survival of our Allies, and indeed, the World."

Landry wrote in a post on social media that "it's an honor to serve you in this volunteer position to make Greenland a part of the U.S."

The Trump administration did not offer any warning ahead of the announcement, according to a Danish government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The official also said Danish officials had expected Trump to signal an aggressive approach to Greenland and the Arctic in the U.S. administration's new national security strategy and were surprised when the document included no mention of either.

Deputy White House press secretary Anna Kelly said Monday that Trump decided to create the special envoy role because the administration views Greenland as "a strategically important location in the Arctic for maintaining peace through strength." □

NSA employee sues the Trump administration over transgender rights and 'immutable' genders

By **BILL BARROW**
Associated Press

A transgender employee of the National Security Agency is suing the Trump administration and trying to block enforcement of a presidential executive order and other policies the employee says violate federal civil rights law.

Sarah O'Neill, an NSA data scientist who is transgender, disputes the legality of President Donald Trump's Inauguration Day executive order that required the federal government, in all operations and printed materials, to recognize only two "immutable" sexes: male and female.

The lawsuit filed Monday says Trump's order "declares that it is the policy of

the United States government to deny Ms. O'Neill's very existence."

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Maryland.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The order, which reflected Trump's 2024 campaign rhetoric, spurred policies that O'Neill is challenging, as well.

Since Trump initial executive action, O'Neill asserts the NSA has cancelled its policy recognizing her transgender identity and "right to a workplace free of unlawful harassment," while "prohibiting her from identifying her pronouns as female in written communications" and "barring her from using the women's re-

stroom at work."

O'Neill contends those policies and the orders behind them create a hostile work environment and violate Section VII of the Civil Rights Act. The U.S. Supreme

Court ruled in 2020 that Section VII's prohibition on discrimination based on sex applied to gender identity.

"We agree that homosexuality and transgender status are distinct concepts

from sex," the court's majority opinion stated. "But, as we've seen, discrimination based on homosexuality or transgender status necessarily entails discrimination based on sex; the first cannot happen without the second." O'Neill's complaint argues, "The Executive Order rejects the existence of gender identity altogether, let alone the possibility that someone's gender identity can differ from their sex, which it characterizes as 'gender ideology.'" In addition to restoring her workplace rights and protections, O'Neill is seeking financial damages. Trump's order was among a flurry of executive actions he took hours after taking office. □



President Donald Trump signs executive orders in the Oval Office of the White House, Jan. 20, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

Waymos blocked roads and caused chaos during San Francisco power outage

By JAIMIE DING and MICHAEL LIEDTKE

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Many of Waymo's self-driving cars blocked streets of San Francisco during a mass power outage Saturday and forced the company to temporarily suspend service, raising questions about the cars' ability to adapt to real-world driving conditions.

Social media users posted videos of Waymos as they encountered traffic lights that were off. Some cars' hazard lights blinked and they abruptly stopped in place, failing to cross the intersection. Others stopped in the middle of the intersection, forcing other cars to swerve around them.

The power outage affected 130,000 homes and businesses in San Francisco, nearly one-third of the customers served by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. It was caused by a fire at a power substation, officials said. On Monday, the utility company was still working to restore power to thousands of customers.

Waymo operates hundreds of robotaxis in San Francisco, but it wasn't clear how many cars were on the road at the time of the out-



Cars wait at an intersection with no working traffic lights from power outages, in San Francisco, Saturday, Dec. 20, 2025.

Associated Press

age. The company paused service Saturday evening and resumed it Sunday afternoon.

The road-blocking problems that prompted Waymo to suspend its service during the weekend power outages revived concerns that city officials raised about the robotaxis periodically coming to abrupt and inexplicable stops before California regulators approved them as a commercial service in August

2023.

Tyler Cervini, who lives in the Mission District, said he was calling an Uber to bring him to the airport since his train station was not operating due to the outage. At the traffic light outside his apartment, there were five Waymos crowding the intersection, he said.

He got into his Uber right outside where all the Waymos were, but his driver "had to swerve through them to pick me up," Cer-

vini said. "He seemed extremely frustrated by what was going on."

Waymo said that its vehicles are designed to treat nonfunctioning traffic signals as four-way stops, but the scale of the outage created unusual conditions. "While the failure of the utility infrastructure was significant, we are committed to ensuring our technology adjusts to traffic flow during such events," a Waymo spokesperson said.

"Throughout the outage, we closely coordinated with San Francisco city officials."

The company said most active trips were completed before vehicles were safely returned to depots or pulled over.

Philip Koopman, professor emeritus at Carnegie Mellon University and expert on self-driving vehicle safety, said the scale of the traffic disruption was concerning. Autonomous vehicles are generally programmed to come to a stop if they are unsure or confused on what to do and ask for remote assistance, he said.

Koopman said it did not appear to be a software failure in the cars themselves, but an "operational management failure" where the company did not have the capability to deal with so many robotaxis needing assistance at once.

Waymo should have suspended service earlier as soon as their vehicles started having issues, he said.

"If you have thousands of robotaxis that stop, you have a problem," he said. "What if this had been an earthquake? You would have thousands of robotaxis blocking the road." □

Colorado immigration activist Jeanette Vizguerra can be released on bond, advocates say

By COLLEEN SLEVIN
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Supporters of a prominent Colorado



Jeanette Vizguerra, center, a Mexican immigrant who has lived in a church to avoid immigration authorities for the past three months, pauses as she speaks after leaving the church early May 12, 2017, in downtown Denver.

Associated Press

immigration and labor activist say an immigration judge has ruled that she can post bond and be released after spending nine months in detention.

The judge issued a written ruling Sunday allowing Jeanette Vizguerra to post \$5,000 bond, said Jennifer Piper of the American Friends Service Committee, who has been working with Vizguerra's lawyers and her family. Vizguerra's family and a nonprofit group that helps pay bonds for people in immigration detention were working Monday to post the bond, which can take a day or more to process, she said.

Emails seeking comment

from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security were not immediately returned.

Vizguerra gained prominence after she took refuge in churches in Colorado to avoid deportation during the first Trump administration. She was arrested in the parking lot of the Denver-area Target store where she worked on March 17.

Vizguerra, who came to Colorado in 1997 from Mexico City, has been fighting deportation since 2009 after she was pulled over in suburban Denver and found to have a fraudulent Social Security card with her

own name and birth date but someone else's actual number, according to a 2019 lawsuit she brought against ICE. Vizguerra did not know the number belonged to someone else at the time, it said.

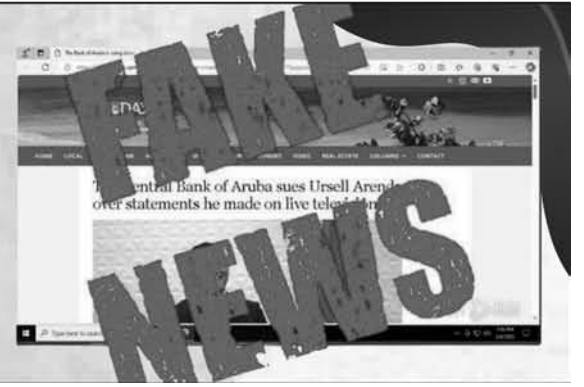
Vizguerra's lawyers have said ICE was attempting to deport her based on an order that was never valid and challenged her detention in federal court.

A federal judge recently ordered that a bond hearing be held in immigration court to determine whether Vizguerra should be continue to be held in detention facility in suburban Denver as her immigration case plays out. □

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This image taken from video provided by Investigative Committee of Moscow on Monday, Dec. 22, 2025, shows the scene where Lt. Gen. Fanil Sarvarov, head of the Operational Training Directorate of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff, was killed by an explosive device placed under his car in Moscow.

Associated Press

Car bomb kills Russian general in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — A car bomb killed a Russian general on Monday, the third such killing of a senior military officer in just over a year. Investigators said Ukraine may be behind the attack.

Lt. Gen. Fanil Sarvarov, head of the Operational Training Directorate of the Russian Armed Forces' General Staff, died from his injuries, said Svetlana Petrenko, the spokesperson for Russia's Investigative Committee, the nation's top criminal investigation agency. He was 56.

"Investigators are pursuing numerous lines of inquiry regarding the murder. One of these is that the crime was orchestrated by Ukrainian intelligence services," Petrenko said.

Since Moscow sent troops into Ukraine nearly four years ago, Russian authorities have blamed Kyiv for several assassinations of military officers and public figures in Russia. Ukraine has claimed responsibility

for some of them. It has not yet commented on Monday's death.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that President Vladimir Putin had been immediately informed about the killing of Sarvarov, who fought in Chechnya and had taken part in Moscow's military campaign in Syria.

Russia has blamed a series of other apparent assassinations on Ukraine.

Just over a year ago, Lt. Gen. Igor Kirillov, the chief of the military's nuclear, biological and chemical protection forces, was killed by a bomb hidden on an electric scooter outside his apartment building. Kirillov's assistant also died. Ukraine's security service claimed responsibility for the attack.

An Uzbek man was quickly arrested and charged with killing Kirillov on behalf of the Ukrainian security service.

Putin described Kirillov's killing as a "major blunder" by

Russia's security agencies, noting they should learn from it and improve their efficiency.

In April, another senior Russian military officer, Lt. Gen. Yaroslav Moskalik, a deputy head of the main operational department in the General Staff, was killed by an explosive device placed in his car parked near his apartment building just outside Moscow. A suspected perpetrator was quickly arrested.

Days after Moskalik's killing, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he received a report from the head of Ukraine's foreign intelligence agency on the "liquidation" of top Russian military figures, adding that "justice inevitably comes" although he didn't mention Moskalik's name.

Ukraine, which is outnumbered by Russia's larger, better equipped military, has frequently tried to change the course of the conflict by attacking in unexpected ways. □

130 schoolchildren and staff abducted in Nigeria last month have been released, police say



Freed students of St. Mary's Catholic School are reunited with their parents in Papiri community, Nigeria, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2025.

Associated Press

By DYEPAZAH SHIBAYAN

Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — Some 130 schoolchildren and staff abducted from a Nigerian Catholic school last month by gunmen have been released, police said Sunday.

Gunmen seized at least 303 schoolchildren and 12 teachers in Nigeria's north-central Niger state when they attacked St. Mary's Catholic School in the Papiri community on Nov. 21.

Fifty escaped in the hours that followed and 100 schoolchildren were freed earlier this month.

Niger State police spokesperson Wasiu Abiodun said in a statement that "the remaining batch of the abducted students" has now been released.

"A total number of 130 victims including the staff have been released," Abiodun said.

When asked about the 35 unaccounted for schoolchildren and missing teachers, Abiodun told The Associated Press: "Further details will be communicated."

Presidential spokesperson Bayo Onanuga said in a post on X that the "remaining 130 schoolchildren abducted" have been released.

He said the released schoolchildren would arrive in Minna, the Niger state capital, on Monday and rejoin their parents for Christmas.

"The freedom of the schoolchildren followed a military intelligence driven operation," Onanuga said.

Sunday Dare, another spokesperson for Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu also said 130 schoolchildren were released and that none are left in captivity, in a post on X.

No group has claimed responsibility for the Nov. 21 abduction, but locals blamed armed gangs that target schools and travelers in kidnappings for ransoms across Nigeria's conflict-battered north. □

Ecuadorian court hands down max sentences to 11 soldiers in case of 4 disappeared minors

By GABRIELA MOLINA

Associated Press

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — A court in Ecuador handed lengthy prison sentences Monday to a group of eleven soldiers who were responsible for the abduction and torture of four children last year a case that has rattled the South American nation and raised questions about President Daniel Noboa's efforts to militarize some cities amid a surge in drug-related violence.

The court sentenced the soldiers to 34 years in prison for the "forced disappearance" of the children, and said the defendants would have to pay \$10,000 fines to the families of the victims and ask for forgiveness in public. The soldiers convicted on Monday are expected to face a murder trial for the deaths of the children next year. The remains of the children aged 11 to 15 were found in December 2024, a few weeks after they were reported missing. Ecuador's military has been patrolling the streets of some cities since January



Protesters hold banners outside the courthouse where soldiers were sentenced for the disappearance and killing of four children who went missing in December 2024, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, Monday, Dec. 22, 2025.

2024, when Noboa issued a decree saying his country was in an "internal armed conflict. The conservative president, who was re-elected to a four-year term in April, has argued that the measure is necessary to reduce violence in Ecuador, whose homicide rate has

tripled since 2021, as drug gangs fight over the control of ports and cocaine smuggling routes.

But human rights groups have accused the military and police of committing abuses against civilians that include extra judicial killings and the arrest of

thousands of people without due process. On Dec. 8, 2024 brothers Ismael and Josué Arroyo along with their friends Saúl Arboleda and Steven Medina were reported as missing after they did not return home from a soccer game in the port city of Guayaquil.

Associated Press

Security camera footage obtained by local journalists a few days later, showed that the children had been detained by a military patrol and were forced into the back of a pickup truck. Later that month the remains of the children's charred bodies were found by investigators outside a military base on the outskirts of Guayaquil, and a judge ordered the detention of several soldiers who had become suspects in the crime.

The military acknowledged that the children had been in its custody and had been taken by the patrol following reports of a robbery. But it initially blamed drug gangs in Guayaquil for the killings, arguing that the children had been murdered after soldiers released them.

In Monday's ruling, Judge José Suárez determined that the children were killed by soldiers who failed to communicate their detention to their superiors or report their arrest to the police. □

Cyberattack disrupts France's postal service and banking during Christmas rush

PARIS (AP) — With just three days to go before Christmas, a cyberattack knocked France's national postal service offline Monday, blocking and delaying package deliveries and online payments. The timing was miserable

for millions of people at the height of the Christmas season, as frazzled postal workers fended off frustrated customers.

No one immediately claimed responsibility, but suspicions abounded.

At a post office in southern

Paris, usually bustling this time of year, workers questioned whether the attack could be linked to Russia. Or a disgruntled customer, or colleague.

Officials didn't comment on the culprit. Paris prosecutors were examining the case.

What the postal service La Poste called a "major network incident" remained unresolved by Monday evening, more than eight hours after it was first reported. For a company that delivered 2.6 billion packages last year and employs more than 200,000 people, that's a big hit.

La Poste said in a statement that a distributed denial of service incident, or DDoS, "rendered its online services inaccessible." It said the incident had no impact on customer data, but disrupted package

delivery.

Letters, including holiday greeting cards, could still be mailed and delivered. But transactions requiring tracking or access to the postal service internal computer systems were impossible.

The cyberattack also hurt online banking. Customers of the company's banking arm, La Banque Postale, were blocked from using the application to approve payments or conduct other banking services. The bank redirected approvals to text messages instead. "Our teams are mobilized to resolve the situation quickly," the bank said in messages posted on social networks.

The disruption came a week after France's government was targeted by a cyberattack that targeted the Interior Ministry,

in charge of national security.

In that incident, a suspected hacker extracted a few dozen sensitive files and obtained access to data relating to police records and wanted persons, Interior Minister Laurent Nunez said on broadcaster France-Info. He blamed "imprudence" at the ministry for the incident. French media reported that a 22-year-old was detained. Also last week, prosecutors said that France's counterespionage agency is investigating a suspected cyberattack plot involving software that would have allowed remote users to control computer systems of an international passenger ferry. A Latvian crew member is in custody facing charges of having acted for an unidentified foreign power, officials said. □



A general view of France's national postal service, La Poste, in Paris, Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025.

Associated Press



Po-Ké Ono Brings Bold Asian Fusion to Aruba's Dining Scene

Innovative eatery blends island culture with modern Asian cuisine



In a culinary landscape known for its diversity and creativity, Po-Ké Ono stands out as a vibrant and contemporary addition to Aruba's restaurant scene. With locations at Azure in Palm Beach and the Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad, the concept introduces a refreshing take on Asian fusion dining—casual in style, yet refined in execution.

Established in 2020, Po-Ké Ono was envisioned as a space where flavor, culture, and creativity intersect. The menu features an array of signature dishes including poke bowls, steamed bao, and sushi, crafted with precision and a focus on freshness. Drawing on Asian influences, the restaurant delivers bold flavors in an approachable format, appealing to a broad audience of locals and visitors alike.

The ambiance is designed to be welcoming and relaxed, with a philosophy centered

around accessibility and enjoyment. Whether dining indoors or grabbing a quick bowl on the go, guests can expect a consistently high standard in both service and cuisine. With extensive menu options, including selections for vegan diners, Po-Ké Ono caters to a wide range of tastes and dietary preferences.

While the concept leans into fast-casual dining, the quality of ingredients and thoughtful



preparation reflect fine-dining roots. Many of the restaurant's core ingredients are sourced locally, emphasizing sustainability and support for Aruba's agricultural community. The result is a dining experience that honors both the island's spirit and the culinary traditions it draws inspiration from.

Open daily from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Po-Ké Ono continues to gain recognition as one of the island's premier destinations for sushi, poke, and

bao. Its growing popularity is a testament to Aruba's evolving food culture—one that embraces global influence while staying rooted in community and craft.

For those seeking a modern taste of Asia in the heart of the Caribbean, Po-Ké Ono offers a flavorful and memorable experience worth exploring. □



Know more about the Town Hall Eloy Arends building

The Monuments bureau shares some essential facts about the Town Hall known as the Eloy Arends building. The aim is to educate the community about the mansion's construction, history, and preservation.

The Doctor Eloy Arends building is located at the Wilhelminastraat 8 and was the home of the Arends family. It was the first building that the Monuments bureau, and the Government of Aruba, restored in 1997. Mr. Medardo 'Dada' Picus, was the architect of this Aruban-Caribbean building. The building sits on a 1.545 m² plot of land and is a typical Aruban mansion. It is an open home with false walls that allow the connection of the rooms with each other.

The entrance has large doors and columns supporting the floor of the upper balcony. In between the columns, there are decoration details made out of wood. The elaborately detailed embellishment is known as gingerbread trim and the triangular decorative wall surface over the columns is called the tympanum.

The top of the doors and windows have stained glass.

The building is not built on ground level but at approximately 1.5 meters above ground level. This mansion elevation created storage below the wooden floors and allowed proper ventilation.

The building has lots of windows which allow plenty of light inside, as well as good ventilation.

It has dormer windows and crowns on the outside part of the roof and different decorations on the edges of the walls and facade.

This is a stunning building full of beautiful details that resemble its beauty and transform into a history of love. Aruban tradition for "well-to-do" families dictates that before a man gets married, he has to present his future wife with a newly built and fully furnished house. It was certainly the case with this building.

Due to the engagement between Eloy Arends and Monica Lacle

(daughter of Adriaan Lacle, who is mainly known for the boulevard that bears his name), the construction of the mansion began in 1922 and was completed in 1925 when the couple got married. □





Casago Aruba: Redefining Island Stays with Full-Service Property Management



Casago Aruba was born from a shared passion for elevating the island's tourism experience. Built on a strong foundation of service, hospitality, and a keen eye for quality, the Casago team—backed by over 16 years of experience in the vacation rental and hospitality industry—is on a mission to redefine what luxury and convenience look like for travelers visiting Aruba.

But Casago is more than just a vacation rental platform. It is a **full-service property management company**, offering seamless experiences



for both guests and homeowners alike. While travelers benefit from handpicked accommodations and personalized service, homeowners gain a reliable partner dedicated to the care and performance of their property.

A Stay Tailored to You

Casago Aruba offers more than just stylish villas. Their curated portfolio includes a **wide variety of condos, homes, and villas** in different sizes to suit all types of travelers—from solo adventurers and couples to large families and groups. Every stay is backed by local expertise, with concierge support, 24/7 guest assistance, and an attention to detail that consistently exceeds expectations.

Whether you're here to relax on world-famous beaches, explore Aruba's cultural gems, or discover hidden corners of the island, Casago Aruba ensures your getaway is as smooth as it is memorable.

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Behind the scenes, Casago offers a robust suite of property management services designed to help homeowners

maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- **Promotion** through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
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- **Monthly property inspections** and full utility bill management
- **Strategic planning** to help homeowners increase profitability and keep their properties in top condition

This full-service model ensures that every home is maintained to the highest standard while giving property owners full peace of mind.

Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment



to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

As one of the fastest-growing vacation rental and property management companies on the island, Casago Aruba continues to expand its footprint—welcoming more travelers, partnering with more homeowners, and raising the standard of hospitality in Aruba. □



Aruba to me: "It's wonderful"

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For today we received a lovely message from Angela Baval from Seaford, Long Island, New York.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is an easy and stress free vacation from the best drinking water to the fantastic service everywhere I go. It's wonderful." Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

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The history and meaning of the Aruban florin

(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today loves to share parts of the Aruban culture with our readers, diving into (historical) facts of Aruba, its culture and way of living. In this article, we'll look at the Aruban florin: its history, design and symbolism.

In Aruba, we know the 5, 10, 25 and 50 cent coins, along with the 1 and 5 Florin coin. Aruban Florin bills include the 10, 25, 50, 100, and rarely, the 200 bills. In Papiamentu we call our currency Florin, but the umbrella term for money is 'placa'. Cents are called 'cen' (pronounced: seng), both in the singular and plural form. Most coins are circular and their size depend on their worth. However, the 50 cent coin is easily recognizable by their square shape, as is the 5 Florin coin by their golden color. Every coin has the Aruban emblem carved on it, with the other side displaying the worth of the coin. The bigger 1 and 5 florin coins, however, contain the carving of the emblem on one side, while displaying the side profile of the Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, on the other side. When

his mother, Princess Beatrix, was reigning queen, it was her profile that was carved on the two coins.

Outdated Aruban coins and their names

In the past, Aruban coins had distinctive names and also varied in worth. For example, a 5-cent coin was once called 'Dos Placa'; 10-cent coins were called 'Debchi'; 25-cent coins were called 'Diez Placa' and the 50-cent coin was once called 'Yotin' (pronounced: jo-teen). We also used a distinctive coins worth 2 ½ cents, called placa too. However, this last coin is no longer in use and has become a relic of Aruban money. Back then, the 5-Florin coin used to also be square, but now it is circular.

Aruban bills: their design and symbolism

The Aruban Florin collection contains a variation of colorful bills, displaying incredibly detailed and beautiful designs that tell the story of Aruba on a single piece of paper.

Prior to 2019, the Aruban Florin bills were relatively

simpler in design compared to now, but still included beautiful designs and colors, often depicting local animals. These past designs were made by the Aruban artist Everino Fingal in 1990 up to 2019. Between 1990 and 1993, the 5 Florin coin was a bill. The Fingal designs also included a 500-Florin bill, which has now been discontinued.

In 2019, the Central Bank of Aruba commissioned a new design of the Aruba Florin bills, this time selecting artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew, to present his new design. Matthew kept the tradition of including local animals and the familiar colors on the bills. However, he included additional designs that represent the Aruban culture and link to the Indigenous inhabitants that were the first to set foot on the island.

Current design and symbolism

10 florin

On the 10-florin bill, you can see a Tortuga blanco (white turtle). The blue color symbolizes the blue Caribbean Sea. You can also



see the ruins of the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins, a coral motif, and the symbols of Cas Floria (traditional Aruban house design) with a piece of mosaic.

25 florin

On this orange bill, you can see an Aruban medicinal plant called Shoshoro. The birds Trupiaal, Shoco, rock drawings, and the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic are also depicted. There is also a Purun di ceramica (clay pot), in reference to the relics left behind by our indigenous ancestors.

50 florin

On this bill, we see the Cododo (blue lizard found on the ABC islands), Cangre di tera (land crab), Willem III Tower, and again the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, as well as a beach plant called Banana di rif. The colors are pink/purple.

100 florin

This bill is green in color, representing nature. Here we

see the Yuwana (Iguana), Aloe, Toteki (lizard), the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, and a dance group performing the Baile di cinta (folkloric dance with silk ribbons).

200 florin

There is another bill with a value of 200 dollars. The brown color symbolizes the earth of Aruba. Here we see the Dornasol and the Warawara—both local birds, along with the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, the Tuna cactus plant, and the Caha di orgel (folkloric instrument, used for many traditional songs).

Extra fact:

The word "florin" is supposedly named after the Italian city of Florence or it's a reference to the Italian word "florino", both explanations related to historical Italian currencies. □

Source: Placa, placa, placa by the National Library of Aruba (BNA).



Aruba Quality Apartments Hosts Festive Christmas Lunch with employees



(Oranjestad)—Aruba Quality Apartments recently hosted a heartwarming Christmas lunch with their dedicated employees.

The event was a wonderful opportunity for the staff to come together, celebrate the holiday season and express appreciation for their hard work and commitment.

The festive gathering featured delicious meals, fun and highlighting the strong team spirit at Aruba Quality Apartment. We are grateful for our amazing team and their dedication to providing exceptional service to our guests, says Janique Schilders who is in charge of Aruba Quality Apartment, wishing everyone a joyous holiday season.

The event was a lovely way to show appreciation to the staff's efforts in making Aruba Quality Apartment a top choice for accommodations. □



Aruba's first Ombudsman and what she can mean for you

(Oranjestad)—Ombudsman Mrs. Jurima Bryson, appointed on October 1st 2024, is proud to represent

Aruba and is prepared to help both locals and tourists with their concerns.

What is the role of the Ombudsman?

In a nutshell, the Ombudsman is the middle man

between you and government or semi-government agencies. This means that as a local or as a visitor of Aruba, you can file a complaint to the bureau of the Ombudsman against government and semi-government agencies. Already left the island? No problem. The Ombudsman of Aruba can still receive and handle your complaint even from abroad. You only have to provide a way for them to reach you.

To contact the Ombudsman, you can visit the of-

fice located at Caya G.F. Betico Croes 149, Oranjestad, Aruba. You can also call at +297 281 6800 or email @ombudsman.aw. for more questions or complaints.

Opening hours

The Ombudsman office is open to the public with no appointment from Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 am.

Follow the ombudsman on Instagram: @ombudsmanaruba and Facebook: Ombudsman Aruba □



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Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names



Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Anabui/Tierra Del Sol

This neighborhood can be seen on Van Raders map and Werbata as Anna Boei. Anna Boei is a name of which there isn't much

information about its origin.

The best historians were able to deduce is that this name came to be because of a miscommunication between Van Spengler and the natives who were living on the island. In the Arawak/Taino language one can find the word Anaiboa, which consists of

Ana meaning flower or the best and lboa; the juice of a cassava, which together would mean "the best juice of a cassava".

If one assumes that the actual word heard was Ana-boio instead, consisting of Ana meaning the best and Boio (bohio); house, the iteration of Anabui would



mean "the best house." This is the origin that has been more or less speculated and assumed for the word Anabui and its meaning.

During the Second World War and later, this area was used as a terrain for training of shooting by militia and later on Korps Mariniers (the marines of Aruba). By the end of the previous century a large part of Anabui was developed to have luxurious villas and a golf course, which lead to it getting the name Tierra Del Sol, Spanish for Land of the Sun. The name is not an official name, but the name of the development project that took place. It is hoped that the original and 'old' name of Anabui is never lost and now it will be remembered by both locals and tourists.

Angochi

This name can be seen

on the Werbata map with little and cursive letters. It is the unofficial name for the area given by a tenant to the land that was rented to him.

The biggest probability that historians believe is that it comes from native descent, during the time in the 19th century where Mestizos still lived on Aruba. The name can't really be explain and according to books on its history seems to be more of a sign of corruption.

However, it seems to come from combining A(n), which is a generalizing prefix and Goeiza, which means 'the spirit of a living man'. Angochi remains more of a guess.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; An.□

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Picuda!

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Picuda", a very common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Picuda.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? This is an informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu, which the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, known as "Santa Rosa", wants to share and also obtain information from the public.

Picuda, *Sphyraena barracuda*, Greater Barracuda Well known is the Picuda on the island—Barracuda in English. Its scientific name is *Sphyraena barracuda*. It is a widely caught fish. It is found throughout the year in our waters, where it is a so-called "ambush predator" that stays still or floats in the water waiting for its prey to approach so it can attack it with lightning speed. It is well known for fishermen, especially for its white flesh in fish soup. In fishing culture, there are many other names, such as Pecho blanco, Blekito, Banana, or Bleki. The names vary according to size.

Description

The Picuda is a long fish,

with a round body like a torpedo and silver in color with shiny black stripes. Below, the belly, is whiter, while the top part is darker. Its snout is very pointed, and the lower jaw is longer than the upper one. Its peduncle, where the body meets the tail, is thick, while the tail also forms a crescent but in this case one more "full" than that of mullet or cone-fish. This reflects the hunting style of the Picuda. It needs to be able to accelerate quickly when the prey gets close.

In Aruba:

Picuda can be found in our waters around our island throughout the year. Picuda, in our waters, is edible without any problem. Picu-

da is also a highly sought-after fish by sports fishermen or recreational fishermen because it puts up a good fight once hooked. It can be caught via trolling from a boat, casting from shore with a line or rod, or by jig-

ging, casting the lure (artificial bait) and moving it with certain rod motions.□

Picture courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).



CROSSWORD

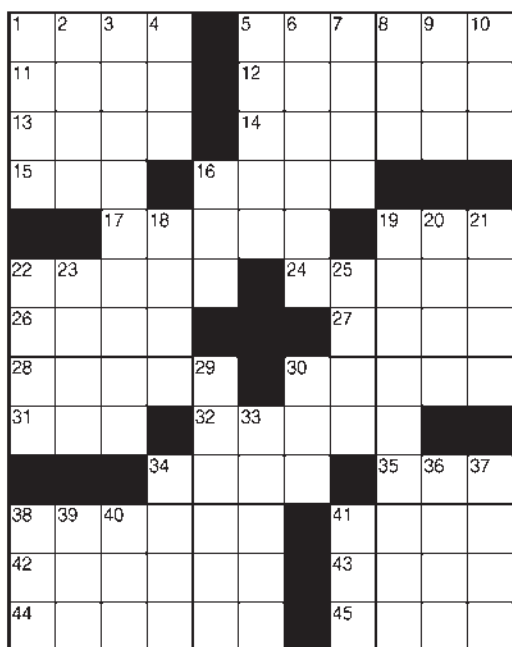
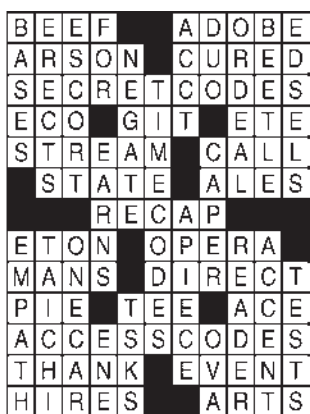
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Fly writer
catchers 44 "Dracula"
5 Mauna home
Loa
setting
11 Realty unit
12 Kampala's country
13 Tibia setting
14 Need
15 "Anna-bel Lee" author
16 Londoner, e.g.
17 Skirmishes
19 Lingerie item
22 Burger topper
24 Fable ending
26 Med. sch. subject
27 Puzzle book feature
28 Track great Owens
30 Corn
31 Really impress
32 Get smart
34 Tailless cat
35 Upper limit
38 Find not guilty
41 Bud's place
42 Role for Damon
43 Gobi setting

DOWN

- 1 Bee's cousin
2 Canyon sound
3 Paper carrier
4 Capitol Bldg. figure
5 Step on it
6 Illegal hiring practice
7 Poet Whitman
8 Some amount of
9 Chapel reply
10 McKellen of "X-Men" mother
16 Outlaw
18 Goes bad
19 Cranium
20 Make fun of
21 Out of the wind
22 Mexican region
23 Over again
25 General Bradley
29 Galahad's mother
30 Upper limit
33 Stage direction
34 Darkness
36 Tag sale words
37 Fuel from bogs
38 Crunch targets
39 Barracks bed
40 Status —
41 Big truck



AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

UBMRFQ, E ZBMPFQBMP TFETYM,
BT E RBSF RY PERKFQ PYZGFM
SYSFMRT, FSOEQJ CLYM E
TFMRBSFMREZ AYCQMFI,
EMG FMAYI FWFQI BGZF KYCQ.
— AYKM OYTUFZZ

Cryptoquote: THERE ARE TWO WAYS
OF SPREADING LIGHT: TO BE THE CANDLE OR THE
MIRROR THAT REFLECTS IT. — EDITH WHARTON

Cruise ship Schedule: Dec. 19 - 24 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
FRI	19	CORAL PRINCESS	07.00	16.00	B	1
		MS RENAISSANCE	09.00	18.00	C	1
		WIND SPIRIT	12.01	****	G	1
SAT	20	ZUIDERDAM	07.00	16.00	B	1
		AIDAPERLA	09.00	22.00	C	1
		WIND SPIRIT - Dept.	****	19.00	G	
SUN	21	SILVER SHADOW	13.00	****	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
MON	22	SILVER SHADOW - Dept.	****	18.00	C	
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	B	1
		SEVEN SEAS MARINER	10.00	22.00	C	1
		NORWEGIAN SKY	13.30	20.00	I	1
WED	24	BRITANNIA	07.00	18.00	B	1
		ROTTERDAM	08.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
		OCEANIA ALLURA	10.00	23.00	I	1

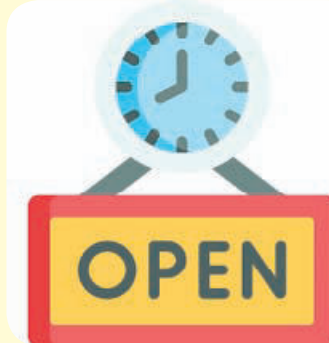
Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★

12/23

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty: ★

12/22

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A woman reads a book in the afternoon sun on a bench outside South Station in Boston, on Friday, May 31, 2024.

Associated Press

Want to read more in 2026? Here's how to revive your love of books

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN

AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — People stop reading in adulthood for lots of reasons. But it's never too late to turn the page on old habits and start again.

Curling up with a good book can reduce stress, increase creativity and boost empathy. A recent analysis of U.S. government data found that the percentage of Americans who read for pleasure during an average day has fallen to 16% in 2023 from 28% in 2004. That includes not just books but audiobooks, e-books and periodicals like magazines.

Some people say they're fatigued from years of assigned reading in school. Others don't have the time or would rather zone out by doom-scrolling on social media. And many just got out of the habit.

"It's difficult for people who are really tired and busy to think about getting into reading if it's not something they're used to," said Jacqueline Rammer, director of Menomonee Falls Public Library in Wisconsin.

For those looking to set reading goals or resolutions in 2026, here's how to get back into the habit.

Choose the right book

When picking your next book, avoid dense nonfiction or a 500-page doorstep. □

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Seroe Preto:Tel.584 4833

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
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Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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FAVI- Visually Impaired
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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
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Fundacion Contra Violencia
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T&D

Instacart ends a program where users could see different prices for the same item at the same store

NEW YORK (AP) — Instacart said Monday that it's ending a program where some customers saw different prices for the same product ordered at the same time from the same store when using the delivery company's service.

The program was meant to help grocers and other retailers learn more about what kinds of prices customers would pay for items, similar to how stores offer different prices for the same products at different locations. But it raised alarms after a report from Consumer Reports and two progressive advocacy groups, Groundwork Collaborative and More Perfect Union, said Instacart offered nearly three out of every four grocery items to shoppers at multiple prices in an experiment.

"At a time when families are working exceptionally hard to stretch every grocery dollar, those tests raised concerns, leaving



An instacart logo and an instacart webpage are seen in New York, Sept. 6, 2023.

Associated Press

some people questioning the prices they see on Instacart," the company said in a Monday blog post. "That's not okay especially for a company built on trust, transparency, and affordability."

Retailers will continue to set their own prices on the delivery website and they

may still offer different prices at different brick-and-mortar locations, Instacart said, but "from now on, Instacart will not support any item price testing services." Instacart said these services were neither "dynamic pricing," a system where the price for something can go up when demand

is high, nor "surveillance pricing," where prices can be set based on a user's income, shopping history or other personal information. Instead, the company said it was offered to customers at random. Some customers would simply see a slightly higher price for an item, while others would see

a slightly lower price. The experiment by Consumer Reports and the two progressive advocacy groups, for example, found that Instacart customers saw one of five different prices for the same dozen of Lucerne eggs from a Safeway store in Washington, D.C.: \$3.99, \$4.28, \$4.59, \$4.69, or \$4.79. Instacart had been offering the price-testing service to retailers since 2023. The company declined to say how many customers may have been affected, but it will end the service, effective immediately.

Last week, in a separate case, Instacart agreed to pay \$60 million in customer refunds to settle federal allegations of deceptive practices. The Federal Trade Commission had accused Instacart of falsely advertising free deliveries and not clearly disclosing service fees, which add as much as 15% to an order and must be paid for customers. □



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Cloudy future for bourbon has Jim Beam closing Kentucky distillery for a year

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

Bourbon maker Jim Beam is halting production at one of its distilleries in Kentucky for at least a year as the whiskey industry navigates tariffs from the Trump administration and slumping demand for a product that

needs years of aging before it is ready. Jim Beam said the decision to pause bourbon making at its Clermont location in 2026 will give the company time to invest in improvements at the distillery. The bottling and warehouse at the site will remain open, along

with the James B. Beam Distilling Co. visitors center and restaurant. The company's larger distillery in Boston, Kentucky, will continue to operate, the company said.

"We are always assessing production levels to best meet consumer demand," the company said in a statement that added they were talking with the distillery's union to determine whether there will be layoffs or other reductions. Bourbon makers have to gamble well into the future. Jim Beam's flagship bourbon requires at least four years of aging in barrels before being bottled.

Whiskey makers are dealing with back-and-forth arguments over tariffs in Europe and in Canada, where a boycott started after the Trump administration suggested annexing the country into the U.S. Overall exports of American

spirits fell 9% in the second quarter of 2025 compared to a year ago, according to the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States. The most dramatic decrease came in U.S. spirits exports to Canada, which fell 85% in the April-through-June quarter

Bourbon production has grown significantly in recent years. As of January, there were about 16 million barrels of bourbon aging in Kentucky warehouses more than triple the amount held 15 years ago, according to the Kentucky Distillers' Association.

But sales figures and polling show Americans are drinking less than they have in decades.

About 95% of all bourbon made in the U.S. comes from Kentucky. The trade group estimated the industry brings more than 23,000 jobs and \$2.2 billion to the state. □



Shelves display bottles of bourbons for sale at a Pennsylvania fine wine and spirits store, Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, in Harmony, Pa.

Associated Press

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Sidney Crosby breaks Penguins scoring record previously held by Mario Lemieux

By DAN SCIFO
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — As far as Sidney Crosby is concerned, Mario Lemieux is still No. 1 in his book. But after Sunday night, Lemieux is now officially No. 2.

Crosby broke Lemieux's franchise scoring record with a goal and an assist in the first period of the Pittsburgh Penguins' 4-3 shootout win against the Montreal Canadiens on Sunday night.

"I don't think you can put a stat line or a number on what he means to this team and to hockey, so yeah, in my mind, he's still No. 1," Crosby said.

Crosby, who began the night one point behind Lemieux, now has 645 goals and 1,079 assists for 1,724 points in 1,387 games. It also moved him past Lemieux for the eighth-most points in NHL history. Crosby tipped Erik Karlsson's point shot at 7:58 of the first period for a goal to tie the record. He then broke the mark with 7:20 left in the period when his shot on a power play hit Bryan Rust and Rickard Rakell tapped the rebound behind Jakub Dobes.

Crosby, Rust and Rakell embraced behind the net after the goal and the Penguins spilled over the bench to congratulate their captain. Later in the period, a 30-second video message recorded by Lemieux congratulating Crosby on the accomplishment was played.

"I knew when we played together in 2005 that you were going to be a very special player and accomplish a lot of great things in your career," Lemieux said in the message. "Here we



Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby skates to his bench after scoring a goal that tied him with former Penguins player Mario Lemieux for the team's all-time points leader, during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Montréal Canadiens in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025.

Associated Press

are 20 years later, you're now one of the best to ever play the game."

A hush fell over the arena as fans intently listened to Lemieux's message.

"Seeing the crowd go quiet when Mario's message come on, that was pretty special," Crosby said. "If you don't understand the impact he's had here and you were here tonight, I think you understand it a little bit better given how quiet it got."

Lemieux, the Hall of Famer, who also owned the franchise following his second retirement, became the Penguins' all-time points leader, surpassing then-assistant coach Rick Kehoe on Jan. 20, 1989, when Crosby was 17 months old. Lemieux, who was in the lineup when Crosby recorded his first NHL point, finished his career with 1,723 points in 915 games.

"I have so much appreciation for having the opportunity to play with him, live with him and learn from

him," said Crosby, who lived with Lemieux and his family early in his career. "You grow up watching him, you never expect you're going to make it to the NHL let alone play with him. He was a big part of helping me out and a huge influence on me."

Crosby, the No. 1 overall pick in 2005, is the seventh outright all-time points leader in 58 years of the franchise's history and the ninth active player to lead a franchise in points. Crosby previously broke Lemieux's record for most assists in franchise history last Dec. 29 against the New York Islanders. Crosby is 45 goals behind Lemieux's franchise record of 690. □

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Young Titans showing signs of improvement in winning 2 of 3 in challenging season

By **TERESA M. WALKER**
AP Pro Football Writer
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans finally have a home victory as proof of the improvement shown in fits and spurts over the past few weeks. Learning how to win in the NFL means everything, especially with so much youth on the roster and so many rookies playing. Yes, more than finishing with a high draft slot next April. "This organization's got a very bright future with all these players playing and the way they're playing," interim coach Mike McCoy said Monday. The Titans turned in their most complete perfor-



Tennessee Titans defensive tackle Jeffery Simmons (98) celebrates after tackling Kansas City Chiefs running back Kareem Hunt for a safety during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025, in Nashville, Tenn.

ter week in and week out," McCoy said.

What's working

The run game. The Titans are both running the ball better and calling more run plays. Tony Pollard has three consecutive 100-yard rushing games for the first time in his career. They finished with 164 yards rushing against Kansas City, a defense that came in seventh against the run, allowing only 99.1 yards a game. That helped Tennessee roll up a season-high 22 first downs on the way to 376 total yards while holding the ball 38 minutes, 1 second for another season high.

It's the fourth time in seven games the Titans have held the ball more than 31 minutes.

What needs help

Penalties continue to be a problem. The Titans were flagged 12 times, one off their season high, for 82 yards that was the fourth most in a game this season. They have had double-digits penalties in four of the past five games.

Stock up

Chimere Dike leads the NFL with 1,535 yards on kickoff returns. He has the single-season mark for the franchise, topping the 1,530 yards by Pro Bowl returner Marc Mariani in 2010. It's the most in the NFL in a season since LaRod Stephens-Howling had 1,548 in 2010 for Arizona.

Stock down

Pollard had his sixth rushing TD of the season wiped out with about four minutes left. The penalty? Simmons was called for illegal formation for not reporting as eligible.

Simmons said after the game he pointed to his number and looked right at referee Clete Blakeman. "Hopefully they don't ban me from offense now," said Simmons who caught a TD pass Dec. 7.

Injuries

Rookie cornerback Marcus Harris hurt a knee and didn't return. McCoy didn't have an update Monday on his status. □

Associated Press

mance in a long time, beating the battered Kansas City Chiefs 26-9. They snapped an 11-game skid for the franchise's first home win since Nov. 3, 2024, allowing those rookies to walk off their own field as winners for the first time.

They also have won two of the past three while scoring at least 24 or more points in four of their past five games.

Three-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Jeffery Simmons said the Titans knew how close they've been recently.

Quarterback Cam Ward, the No. 1 overall pick in April, is the biggest reason why Simmons wants to stay with this rebuilding franchise.

"This is just showing what we could be in the future," Simmons said. "And those guys, they're going to play a big part of it."

Ward's development is the biggest note of optimism for Tennessee (3-12). He has consecutive games with at least a 100 passer rating, and his 122.3 rating against the Chiefs was his best yet.

Ward, who has started every game as a rookie, now has the franchise's rookie mark with 2,866 yards passing.

"You see him getting bet-

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